IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

GENE DIPOTO et al.

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Examiner: ANURADHA RAMANA

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Docket No.:

1291.1143101

Customer No.: 28075

Title:

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR STABILIZING THE SPINE

THROUGH AN ACCESS DEVICE

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Assistant Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper(s) is being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below

Thu H. Le-To

<u>JULY 19, 2007</u>

Date

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Official Action of the Examiner mailed January 19, 2007, setting a three-month shortened statutory period for response ending April 19, 2007. Applicant hereby requests a three-month extension of time, extending the period for response to July 19, 2007.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

Please consider this a PETITION FOR THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME to enter these papers. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0413.